## CLAIMS

1. A storage system for use in a computer system including a host computer, the storage system comprising:

at least one storage device having a plurality of storage locations; and

a controller that controls access to the at least one storage device from the host computer, the controller being capable of writing data to a first storage location of the plurality of storage locations on the at least one storage device in response to a communication from the host computer that does not include the data to be written to the first storage location.

2. The storage system of claim 1, wherein the first storage location includes a plurality of first storage locations on the at least one storage device, and wherein the controller is capable of writing data to the plurality of first storage locations in response to a single command.

3. The storage system of claim 2, wherein the controller is capable of writing data having a predetermined state to each of the plurality of first storage locations in response to the single command.

4. The storage system of claim 2, wherein at least two storage locations of the plurality of first storage locations are perceived by the host computer to be non-contiguous storage locations on the at least one storage device, and wherein the controller is capable of writing data to any of the at least two storage locations in response to a single command.

5. The storage system of claim 2, wherein at least two storage locations of the plurality of first storage locations are perceived by the host computer to be storage locations on different storage devices of the at least one storage device, and wherein the controller is capable of writing data to each of the at least two storage locations in response to a single command.

6. The storage system of claim 2, wherein the at least one storage device includes a plurality of storage devices, wherein at least two storage locations of the plurality of first storage locations are one different storage devices, and wherein the controller is capable of writing data to each of the at least two storage locations in response to a single command.

7. The storage system of claim 4, wherein the single command separately identifies the at least two storage locations.

8. The storage system of claim 1, wherein the first storage location corresponds to a logical object defined by the computer system, the logical object being formed by a first group of the plurality of storage locations on the at least one storage device that includes the first storage location, and wherein the controller is capable of writing data to only the first group in response to the single command.

9. The storage system of claim 8, wherein the controller is capable of writing data having a predetermined state to the first group in response to the single command.